

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of re-establishing a connection for a communication link, said communication link having a first portion in a first ATM communication network, a second portion in a second MPLS communication network and an interface connecting said first portion to said second portion, said first ATM communication network having a first communication protocol and a first OAM protocol adapted to monitor integrity of said first portion, said second MPLS communication network having a second communication protocol and a second MPLS OAM protocol adapted to monitor integrity of said second portion, said method comprising:

utilizing said second MPLS OAM protocol to detect a failure relating to a label switched path (LSP) tunnel in said second portion by monitoring connectivity verification (CV) frames of said second MPLS OAM protocol being passed over said LSP tunnel ;

upon detection of said failure, identifying an alternate route for said second portion in said second MPLS communication network, said alternate route being able to complete said second portion of said communication link from said interface; and

for said communication link, at said interface replacing said second portion with said alternate route.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of re-establishing a connection for a communication link as claimed in claim 1 wherein ~~÷ said first communication network is an ATM network;~~ said first OAM protocol is one of PNNI and ATM OAM ~~÷ said second communication network is a MPLS network; and said second OAM protocol is MPLS OAM .~~

3. (Original) A method of re-establishing a connection for a communication link as claimed in claim 2 wherein identifying an alternate route for said second portion in said second communication network is performed at said interface.

4. (Currently Amended) A method of re-establishing a connection for a communication link as claimed in claim 3 wherein utilizing said second MPLS OAM protocol to detect a failure in said second portion comprises monitoring said second portion for receipt of frames containing MPLS OAM information and debouncing said frames.

5. (Currently Amended) A method of re-establishing a connection for a communication link as claimed in claim 4 wherein for identifying an alternate route for said second portion in said second MPLS communication network, a list of alternate routes for said second portion is maintained and accessed to identify said alternate route.

6. (Original) A method of re-establishing a connection for a communication link as claimed in claim 5 wherein said first OAM protocol is adapted to detect failures in said second portion.

7. (Currently Amended) A method of re-establishing a connection for a communication link as claimed in claim 4 further comprising _:

utilizing said second MPLS OAM protocol to detect clearance of said failure in said second portion;

upon detection of said clearance of said failure, for said communication link, at said interface replacing said alternate route with said second portion.

8. (Currently Amended) A network node associated with a first ATM communication network and a second MPLS communication network, said network node processing communications for a communication link having a first portion in said first ATM communication network, a second portion in said second MPLS communication network and an interface between said first portion and said second portion at said network node, said first ATM communication network having a first communication protocol and a first OAM protocol adapted to monitor integrity of said first portion, said second MPLS communication network having a second communication protocol and a second MPLS OAM protocol adapted to monitor integrity of said second portion, said network node comprising:

a first module adapted to detect a failure relating to a label switched path (LSP) tunnel in said second portion utilizing said second MPLS OAM protocol by monitoring connectivity verification (CV) frames of said second MPLS OAM protocol being passed over said LSP tunnel ;

a second module adapted to receive an indication of said failure and upon receipt of said indication, to identify an alternate route for said second portion in said second MPLS communication network, said alternate route being able to complete said second portion of said communication link from said interface; and

a third module adapted to receive an indication of said alternate route and to replace said second portion with said alternate route for said communication link.

9. (Currently Amended) A network node as claimed in claim 8 wherein ~~said first communication network is an ATM network;~~ said first OAM protocol is one of PNNI and ATM OAM ~~;~~ ~~said second communication network is a MPLS network;~~ and said second OAM protocol is MPLS OAM .

10. (Currently Amended) A network node as claimed in claim 9 wherein said first module utilizes said second MPLS OAM protocol to detect said failure in said second portion by monitoring said second portion for receipt of frames containing MPLS OAM information and said first module debounces said frames.

11. (Original) A network node as claimed in claim 10 wherein: said second module further comprises a list of alternate routes for said second portion to identify said alternate route.

12. (Currently Amended) A network node as claimed in claim 11 wherein : said first module is adapted to use said second MPLS OAM protocol to detect clearance of said failure in said second portion; and said third module is adapted to replace said alternate route with said second portion for said communication link upon detection of said clearance of said failure.